



FM 7-22.7 / TC 22-6

US Army Noncommissioned Officer Guide Chapter 2

THE NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER SUPPORT CHANNEL



The NCO Support Channel



The NCO Support Channel is subordinate to and supportive of the chain of command.

In units at the battalion level and higher, the NCO support channel is the communication and supervision that begins with the command sergeant major (CSM), and extend through first sergeant and platoon sergeant and ends at the section chiefs, squad leaders, or team leaders.



The NCO Support Channel



Successful officers have a good leader and NCO relationship with their first sergeants and command sergeants major. This leaves the commander free to plan, make decisions and program future training and operations.



The NCO Support Channel



The NCO Support Channel assists the chain of command in accomplishing the following:

- Transmitting, instilling and ensuring the efficacy of the professional Army ethic.
- Planning and conducting the day-to-day unit operations within prescribed policies and directives.
- Training enlisted soldiers in their MOS as well as in the basic skills and attributes of a soldier.



The NCO Support Channel



- **Supervising unit physical fitness training and ensuring that soldiers comply with the weight and appearance standards in AR 600-9 and AR 670-1.**
- **Teaching soldiers the history of the Army, to include military customs, courtesies and traditions.**
- **Caring for individual soldiers and their families both on and off duty.**



The NCO Support Channel



- **Teaching soldiers the mission of the unit and developing individual training programs to support the mission.**
- **Accounting for and maintaining individual arms and equipment of enlisted soldiers and unit equipment under their control.**
- **Administering and monitoring the NCO professional development program and other unit training programs.**
- **Achieving and maintaining Army Values.**
- **Advising the commander on rewards and punishment for enlisted soldiers.**



The NCO Support Channel



- **Command Sergeant Major or Sergeant Major**
- **First Sergeant or Master Sergeant**
- **Platoon Sergeant or Sergeant First Class**
- **Squad, Section and Team Leaders**



Command Sergeant Major and Sergeant Major



The Command Sergeant Major:

- Senior NCO of the command at battalion or higher levels.
- Carries out policies and standards on performance, training, appearance, and conduct of enlisted personnel.
- Gives advice and initiates recommendations to the commander and staff in matters pertaining to enlisted personnel.





Command Sergeant Major and Sergeant Major



The Command Sergeant Major:

- In a unit, installation, or higher headquarters, CSM directs the activities of that NCO support channel.
- The support channel functions orally through the CSMs or first sergeant's call and normally does not involve written instruction.



First Sergeant and Master Sergeant



The First Sergeant:



- Senior NCO in companies, batteries and troops.
- The position of first sergeant is similar to that of the CSM in importance, responsibility, and prestige.
- As far back as the Revolutionary War period, first sergeants have enforced discipline, fostered loyalty and commitment in their soldiers, maintained duty rosters, and made morning reports to their company commanders.



Platoon Sergeant and Sergeant First Class



The Platoon Sergeant:



- A duty position, not a rank.
- The primary assistant and advisor to the platoon leader.
- Responsible for training and caring for soldiers.
- Helps the commander to train the platoon leader, and in that regard, has an enormous effect on how that young officer perceives NCOs for the rest of his career.



Squad, Section, and Team Leaders



Staff Sergeants, Sergeants and Corporals

- Are normally squad, section and team leaders.
- Are a critical link in the NCO channel.
- Live and work with their soldiers every day.
- Are responsible for their health, welfare and safety.
- Ensure that their soldiers meet standards in personal appearance.





Squad, Section, and Team Leaders



Staff Sergeants, Sergeants and Corporals

- **Teach them to maintain and account for their individual and unit equipment and property.**
- **Enforces standards and develops and trains soldiers daily in skills and unit missions.**



Duties, Responsibilities, and Authority of the NCO



TEST